

Europäisches Patentamt
European Patent Office
Office européen des brevets



(11) EP 1 127 721 A3

(12)

EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:
24.04.2002 Bulletin 2002/17

(51) Int Cl.7: B60H 1/32

(43) Date of publication A2:
29.08.2001 Bulletin 2001/35

(21) Application number: 01104795.8

(22) Date of filing: 27.02.2001

(84) Designated Contracting States:
AT BE CH CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LI LU
MC NL PT SE TR
Designated Extension States:
AL LT LV MK RO SI

- Sonobe, Masanori
2-1, Toyoda-cho, Kariya-shi, Aichi-ken (JP)
- Suitou, Ken
2-1, Toyoda-cho, Kariya-shi, Aichi-ken (JP)

(30) Priority: 28.02.2000 JP 2000051575
09.11.2000 JP 2000342177

(71) Applicant: Kabushiki Kaisha Toyota Jidoshokki
Kariya-shi, Aichi-ken (JP)

(74) Representative:
Leson, Thomas Johannes Alois, Dipl.-Ing.
Tiedtke-Bühling-Kinne & Partner GbR,
TBK-Patent,
Bavariaring 4
80336 München (DE)

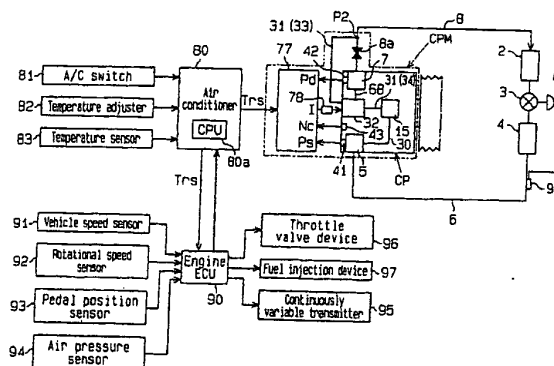
(72) Inventors:
• Kawaguchi, Masanori
2-1, Toyoda-cho, Kariya-shi, Aichi-ken (JP)

(54) Displacement control apparatus for variable displacement compressor, displacement control method and compressor module

(57) A displacement control apparatus controls the displacement of a variable displacement compressor (CP). A drive shaft (16) of the compressor (CP) is driven by an engine (25). Torque (Tr) acting on the drive shaft (16) represents the displacement. The apparatus includes a control valve (32), an air conditioner controller (80) and a compressor controller (77). The control valve (32) changes the compressor displacement. The air conditioner controller (80) produces a torque setting signal,

which represents a target torque (Tr_{set}), to the compressor controller (77). The compressor controller (77) changes the valve opening based on the torque setting signal such that the actual load torque (Tr) matches the target torque value (Tr_{set}). Accordingly, the compressor (CP) is controlled according to the torque. The air conditioner controller (80) may send the torque setting signal to an engine controller (90), which eliminates the need for load torque maps.

Fig. 1



EP 1 127 721 A3



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 10 4795

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 5 893 272 A (SALZER WERNER ET AL) 13 April 1999 (1999-04-13)	1-3,5-8, 12	B60H1/32
Y	* column 2, line 23 - column 3, line 44; figures 1,2 *	4,9	
A	US 4 856 291 A (TAKAHASHI TADAHIRO) 15 August 1989 (1989-08-15) * column 5, line 3 - column 7, line 64; figures 8-11 *	1-9,12	
Y	US 5 924 296 A (KISHITA HIROSHI ET AL) 20 July 1999 (1999-07-20) * column 9, line 11 - line 46; figures 1,6,13 *	4,9	
Y	FR 2 754 773 A (RENAULT) 24 April 1998 (1998-04-24) * page 8, paragraph 2; figure 1 *	4,9	
A	US 5 531 572 A (KIMURA KAZUYA ET AL) 2 July 1996 (1996-07-02) * column 10, line 63 - column 12, line 59; figures 2,3 *	10,11	
A	EP 0 848 164 A (TOYODA AUTOMATIC LOOM WORKS) 17 June 1998 (1998-06-17) * column 9, line 31 - column 11, line 20; figure 1 *	10,11, 13-17	B60H F04B
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 017, no. 439 (M-1462), 13 August 1993 (1993-08-13) & JP 05 096938 A (NIPPONDENSO CO LTD), 20 April 1993 (1993-04-20) * abstract *	13-17	
-/--			
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 20 February 2002	Examiner Hillebrand, S
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	
X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			

EPO FORM 1503 03.82 (P04C01)



European Patent
Office

EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 01 10 4795

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl. 7)
A	US 5 385 029 A (YAMANAKA YASUSHI ET AL) 31 January 1995 (1995-01-31) * column 7, line 39 - column 8, line 69; figures 2,7,11,15 * * column 21, line 27 - line 36 * -----	13-17	
			TECHNICAL FIELD SEARCHED (Int.Cl. 7)
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search MUNICH		Date of completion of the search 20 February 2002	Examiner Hillebrand, S
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

EPO FORM 1503 03/02 (P04C01)

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 01 10 4795

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

20-02-2002

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 5893272	A	13-04-1999	DE	19642832 C1	18-09-1997
			JP	2992951 B2	20-12-1999
			JP	10181344 A	07-07-1998
US 4856291	A	15-08-1989	JP	1175517 A	12-07-1989
			AU	2753488 A	29-06-1989
			DE	3843924 A1	13-07-1989
US 5924296	A	20-07-1999	JP	11170858 A	29-06-1999
			DE	19841765 A1	08-04-1999
FR 2754773	A	24-04-1998	FR	2754773 A1	24-04-1998
			EP	0932777 A1	04-08-1999
			WO	9817928 A1	30-04-1998
US 5531572	A	02-07-1996	JP	7119642 A	09-05-1995
			DE	4436883 A1	20-04-1995
			KR	123880 R1	01-12-1997
EP 0848164	A	17-06-1998	JP	10176659 A	30-06-1998
			EP	0848164 A2	17-06-1998
			TW	428675 Y	01-04-2001
			US	6062823 A	16-05-2000
JP 05096938	A	20-04-1993	JP	2988057 B2	06-12-1999
			US	5385029 A	31-01-1995
			US	5285649 A	15-02-1994
US 5385029	A	31-01-1995	JP	3092248 B2	25-09-2000
			JP	5099156 A	20-04-1993
			JP	3095086 B2	03-10-2000
			JP	5099157 A	20-04-1993
			JP	2995951 B2	27-12-1999
			JP	5096936 A	20-04-1993
			JP	2995952 B2	27-12-1999
			JP	5096937 A	20-04-1993
			JP	2988057 B2	06-12-1999
			JP	5096938 A	20-04-1993
			US	5285649 A	15-02-1994

EPO FORM P0459

For more details about this annex : see Official Journal of the European Patent Office, No. 12/82

